

Notes on *Quedius hirticornis* (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae)

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Since *Quedius (Microsaurus) hirticornis* was originally described by SHARP (1889) from Mizusawa (Mitzusawa), Iwate Prefecture, northern Honshu, only a few specimens of this staphylinid species have been collected from Japan (not recorded). Recently, TOYODA (1998), the junior author, reported that two specimens of this rare species were collected from the nest of the tree ant, *Lasius (Dendrolasius) spathepus*, in Saitama Prefecture, central Honshu, and has suggested that the species is myrmecophilous. Then, the first author has collected additional specimens of the quediine beetle from nests of the same ant species and *L. (D.) fuliginosus* in central Honshu and Hokkaido. Thus, we have confirmed that the species is actually myrmecophilous. This paper presents the additional records, records of the host ants, and short biological notes of the staphylinid.

Quedius (Microsaurus) hirticornis SHARP

Quedius hirticornis SHARP, 1889, 31; SHIBATA, 1985, 309.

Quedius (Microsaurus) hirticornis: BERNHAUER & SCHUBERT, 1916, 424.

Specimens examined. [Hokkaido]: 1♂, Tomambestu, Nopporo Forest Park, Ebetsu-shi, 31–V–1999, M. MARUYAMA leg. (by hand collecting in daytime from a nest of *Lasius spathepus*); 1♀, same locality, 31–V~2–VI–1999, M. MARUYAMA leg. (by a pit fall trap set in front of the same nest), 1♀, Ôsawa-guchi, Nopporo Forest Park, Ebetsu-shi, 13–VI–1999, M. MARUYAMA leg. (by hand collecting in daytime, from a nest of *Lasius fuliginosus*). [Honshu]: 1♀, Mt. Sakurayama, Onishi-chô, Gunma Pref., 22–V–1999, K. TOYODA leg. (by hand collecting in daytime, from a nest of *Lasius spathepus*); 2♂♂, Shiroishi Pass, Higashichichibu-mura, Saitama Pref., 5–V–1999, K. TOYODA leg. (by hand collecting in daytime, from a nest of *Lasius spathepus*); 1♂, 1♀, same locality and collector, 9–V–1999; 3♂♂, 1♀, ditto, 23–V–1999; 1♂, 1♀, ditto, 30–V–1999; 1♀, ditto, 26–IX–1999; 1♀, Ôno Pass, Yokoze-chô, Saitama Pref., 24–VII–1999, K. TOYODA leg. (by hand collecting in daytime, from a nest of *Lasius spathepus*); 1♂, Ogamigô (800 m alt.), Shôkawa-mura, Gifu Pref., 6–VIII–1998, M. MARUYAMA leg. (by a pit fall trap set in front of a nest of *Lasius spathepus*); 1♂, Mt. Daiyûzan, Kanagawa Pref., 15–V–1983, M. NISHIKAWA leg. [Kyushu]: 1♀, Mt. Sobo, Ôita Pref., 4–VII–1954, K. ÔBA leg.

Distribution. Hokkaido (new record), Honshu and Kyushu (new record).

Host ants. *Lasius (Dendrolasius) spathepus* WHEELER, 1928, and *L. (D.) fuliginosus* (LATREILLE, 1798).



Fig. 1. *Quedius hirticornis* SHARP resting under a dead leaf at the Shiroishi Pass, Saitama Pref.



Fig. 2. Habitat of *Quedius hirticornis* SHARP on Mt. Sakurayama, Gunma Pref.

Biology. In the second week of May, 1999, *Quedius hirticornis* beetles were first observed under dead leaves in front of a nest of *Lasius spathepus* in a natural forest on the Shiroishi Pass. The beetle was observed only around the nest. Running around the entrance to the nest, the beetle was very agile. Some individuals were observed rushing into the nest.

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Notes on the Myrmecophilous Rove Beetle, *Philetaerius elegans* SHARP (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Staphylininae)

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Philetaerius elegans SHARP, 1889, belonging to the subfamily Staphylininae, is a well known myrmecophile. It is associated with the tree ants of the subgenus *Dendrolasius* of the genus *Lasius*, and has been reported from Honshu and Kyushu (NAKANE, 1963; TOYODA, 1998). In the course of our faunistic investigation of myrmecophiles associated with *Dendrolasius* after 1996, we have collected sufficient number of specimens of this species, including material from Hokkaido. In this paper, we are going to give additional records and short biological notes of the species.